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Application No. 10/750541

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Amendment

Attorney Docket No. S63.2B-13170-US01

22. (Original) A method as recited in claim 20 wherein said base is formed with a plurality of stiffeners.

Remarks

This Amendment is in response to the Advisory Action dated January 22, 2007, wherein the Amendment of December 22, 2006 was not entered on the grounds that the new terminology of the amended claims would require further consideration, and that the proposed amendment did not place the claims in condition for allowance.

Applicants have included herewith a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and a proposed amendment to instant claims 1, 10 and 18. The claims as amended clarify that when the balloon is in the deflated configuration the outer surface of the pad (protective means) engages the incising element (incising means) whereas when the balloon is expanded to the inflated configuration the outer surface of the pad is not engaged to the incising element such that the incising element is not in contact with the pad.

U.S. 5320634 to Vigil as well as the additional references cited fail to teach or suggest a medical device having all of the features of the instant claims. As such, withdrawal of the rejections to the instant claims is respectfully requested.

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Conclusion

Based on at least the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-22 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

VIDAS, ARRETT & STEINKRAUS

Date: February 2, 2007

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